IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Ali LAAYOUN et al.

Application No.: New U.S. Application

Filed: December 15, 2000 Docket No.: 104959

For: PROCESS FOR LABELING A NUCLEIC ACID

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 7, line 31, change "Arkadiusz et al." to --Bibillo--.

REMARKS

Early and favorable consideration of the merits of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

William P. Berridge Registration No. 30,024

WPB:SJP

Date: December 14, 2000

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